

July 5, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD LITERACY
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 1, 2, 4) (4 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Accept a grant in the amount of up to \$27,929 for Fiscal Year 2005-06 and \$27,929 for Fiscal Year 2006-07 from Public Health Foundation Enterprises, Inc. (PHFE) - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program to allow the Public Library to provide bilingual literacy support services at four designated WIC project sites.
2. Authorize the County Librarian to act on the County's behalf regarding the completion of all documents relating to the project as may be required under the conditions of the grant program, to expend the funds necessary for the completion of the project, and to meet the conditions of the grant.
3. Approve the attached Fiscal Year 2005-06 appropriation adjustment in the amount of \$28,000 to allow the funding of salaries and employee benefits, and necessary services and supplies to implement the project.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Public Library is requesting that the Board accept a grant in the amount of up to \$27,929 for Fiscal Year 2005-06 and \$27,929 for Fiscal Year 2006-07 to allow the Public Library to participate in a partnership with the PHFE-WIC *Little By Little* early literacy program as a part of the *WIC as a Platform for the Promotion of School Readiness* project.

The Public Library will provide bilingual (English/Spanish) literacy support services at four designated WIC project sites to introduce mothers to the importance of reading books with their young children as well as provide them with the skills necessary to do so.

Board approval of the attached Fiscal Year 2005-06 appropriation adjustment will allow the funding of part-time Public Library staff and the purchase of necessary services and supplies to implement the project. The Public Library will request the required appropriation for the Fiscal Year 2006-07 grant funding through the regular budget request process for the next fiscal year.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The grant will result in quality library services to the public, consistent with the County's strategic goals in the areas of service excellence and children and families' well-being.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The grant will provide funding for enhanced library services to the public with no additional cost to the County. Acceptance of this grant does not commit the County to provide on-going services.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County policy requires that grants be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance. A Grant Management statement is not required for this grant because the grant amount is under \$100,000.

Participation in this PHFE-WIC *Little By Little* early literacy program follows the Public Library's participation in a similar program in Fiscal Year 2004-05 previously approved by the Board.

Under this new grant, Public Library staff will provide literacy support services at four designated WIC project sites and host WIC family sessions at the following nearby libraries: East Los Angeles, Baldwin Park, Hawthorne, and Clifton M. Brakensiek in Bellflower.

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

The grant will enable the Public Library to collaborate with WIC, an important community-based agency to further our mutual goal of providing parents with the skills that they need to support their children's early literacy development.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Donnellan Todd
County Librarian

MDT:MR

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller